

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 FTC-01 JUSE-00 IGA-02

GSA-02 /136 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR - JR BURKE:KLWAUCHOPE:LH

APPROVED BY ARA - MR. SHLAUDEMAN

EB/IFD/OIA - MR. KENNEDY

EUR/WE - MR. SHEINBAUM

EUR/WE - MR. JOHNSON

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P R 201847Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL PARAMARIBO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132267

TAGS: PFOR, NL, NA, NS

SUBJECT: MINISTER PRONK'S REMARKS ON NATIONALIZATION OF

BAUXITE INDUSTRY IN SURINAM

REF: THE HAGUE 2804, 3009, PARAMARIBO 257, 265, 272, 285

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

1. DEPARTMENT HAS REVIEWED REFTELS AND ON BASIS OF THIS
REVIEW WE ARE INCLINED TO SHARE CONSUL GENERAL'S CONCERN
THAT MINISTER PRONK'S REMARKS ON NATIONALIZATION OF
BAUXITE INDUSTRY IN SURINAM CAN ONLY BE INTERPRETED AS
AIMED AT SURALCO DESPITE PRONK'S DISCLAIMERS. REQUEST
THEREFORE THAT YOU SEEK EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH
HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF GON TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN ON
THIS SUBJECT.

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2. IN COURSE OF REVIEW OF RECENT "SUMMIT" MEETING OF REALM

PMS AND TIMETABLE FOR SURINAM INDEPENDENCE, YOU SHOULD INDICATE TO GON OUR VIEW THAT ONE OF THE MOST USEFUL ASSETS SURINAM CAN CARRY WITH IT INTO INDEPENDENCE IS THE PROSPECT THAT THE NEW NATION WILL WELCOME FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND PROVIDE FAVORABLE CLIMATE IN WHICH IT CAN DEVELOP. ANY MOVE TO NATIONALIZE SURALCO OR OTHER PRIVATE INVESTMENT AT THE MOMENT OF INDEPENDENCE WOULD SEEM DESIGNED TO PRODUCE JUST THE OPPOSITE EFFECT. SHOULD THE DUTCH ENCOURAGE THE GOS BY PROVIDING THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO

"BUY UP" PART OR ALL OF SURALCO, EITHER BY MEANS OF THE "GOLDEN HANDSHAKE" OR BY AN "INSTITUTIONALIZED" PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE, THEIR ACTION WOULD, IT SEEMS TO US, BE BOTH SHORT-SIGHTED AND COSTLY TO THE GON AS WELL AS GOS. AS IT REMAINS US POLICY TO ENCOURAGE THE GON TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AND FOR THE US TO AVOID ANY SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT IN SURINAM, WITHOUT PRIVATE FOREIGN INVESTMENT, THE GON BURDEN FOR DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE CAN ONLY BE EXPECTED TO INCREASE.

3. IF THE GON IS COMMITTED TO DEVELOPING NATIONS HAVING A GREATER CONTROL OVER THEIR NATIONAL RESOURCES, THEY SHOULD CONSIDER PROVIDING THE GOS FINANCING FOR JOINT VENTURES IN NEW INVESTMENTS WITH FOREIGN FIRMS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTRY, FISHERIES, AGRO-BUSINESS, AND NEW MINING OPERATIONS. THIS ASSISTANCE MAY BE INSTRUMENTAL IN ATTRACTING FOREIGN INVESTORS WHO HAVE UNTIL THIS MOMENT HAD RESERVATIONS ABOUT GOS SOLVENCY AND GON CONTINUING INVOLVEMENT IN DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO THE GOS.

4. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED AND REVIEWED THE HAGUE 3009 AND WE STILL BELIEVE THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD PROCEED WITH ABOVE

DEMARCHE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONALIZATION, BAUXITE, MINISTERIAL VISITS, MINING INDUSTRY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE132267
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JRBURKE:KLWAUCHOPE:LH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740161-1010
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740628/aaaaaxht.tel
Line Count: 95
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: THE HAGUE 2804, 3009, PARAMARIBO 257, , 265, 272, 285
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <24 MAR 2003 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MINISTER PRONK'S REMARKS ON NATIONALIZATION OF BAUXITE INDUSTRY IN SURINAM
TAGS: PFOR, NL, NA, NS, (PRONK, JAN P)
To: THE HAGUE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005